Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, MARR, SP

SUBJECT: SECDEF REPORT ON RATIONALIZATION/STANDARDIZATION WITHIN NATO

REF: MADRID 1730 (NOTAL)

- 1. WE WILL POUCH EMBASSY REQUESTED FIVE COPIES OF UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF SUBJECT REPORT WHICH MAY BE PASSED TO SPANISH GOVERNMENT VIA AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION WITH NATO. (FYI: UNCLASSIFIED REPORT SCHEDULED TO BE RELEASED ON FEBRUARY 28.)
- 2. RELEASING A CLASSIFIED TEXT OF THIS REPORT TO SPANISH POSES A NUMBER OF DIFFICULTIES. THERE ARE TWO SUCH VERSIONS, A NATO SECRET AND A US SECRET TEXT. THE CONFIDENTIAL

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US SECRET REPORT CONTAINS SOME INFORMATION NOT INCLUDED IN THE TEXT PROVIDED TO OUR NATO ALLIES AND, AS SUCH, WE WOULD BE UNWILLING TO PASS IT OR AN EDITED VERSION CONTAINING INFORMATION NOT IN THE NATO TEXT TO THE

SPANISH GOVERNMENT. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE WOULD NOT WISH TO PASS THE NATO VERSION WITHOUT COORDINATING

RELEASE IN NATO IN AS MUCH AS REPORT CONTAINS SENSITIVE INFORMATION ON PROGRAMS OF OTHER ALLIES. BUT, WE ARE RELUCTANT TO SEEK ALLIED CONCURRENCE AT THIS TIME IN PASSING SPANISH NATO TEXT -- A PROCEDURE WHICH LIKELY WOULD ENTAIL PREPARING A SPECIAL EDITED VERSION OF NATO REPORT. IN OUR VIEW THE SANITIZATION AND EDITING NOT ONLY WOULD INVOLVE CONSIDERABLE DELAY BUT WOULD ALSO RESULT IN AN END PRODUCT NOT APPRECIABLY DIFFERENT FROM THE UNCLASSIFIED VERSION.

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